

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 425
By Clabough

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate James "Jimmy" Hitch
of Blount County on his receipt of the Tennessee
Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service Award."

WHEREAS, James "Jimmy" Hitch, a highly regarded Blount County farmer, was one of
five persons who received a 1996 Tennessee Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service Award" at
their recent state convention; and

WHEREAS, this most fitting honor recognized his long and exemplary service to the
farming profession and to the organization; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hitch was born on the same farm on which he resides today, off Sam
Houston School Road in Blount County; and

WHEREAS, after his grandfather died, he and his father purchased the farm and worked
alongside each other until his father died; and

WHEREAS, as a boy, Mr. Hitch was very active in 4-H and he has often said that the
group made a significant difference in his life; and

WHEREAS, after high school, he attended the University of Tennessee for two years but
his father's health declined and he moved back to the farm; and

WHEREAS, his superlative involvement with the Blount County Farm Bureau dates back
to the 1950s and includes admirable service as president of the group from 1981 to 1987 and
astute service as their current vice-president; and

WHEREAS, he has also served with distinction on several state-level Farm Bureau committees, lending important expertise; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hitch has been married to his charming wife, Marion, since 1953, and the union has been blessed with four successful children and five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the Hitches are dedicated members of their community and long-time members of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, where Mr. Hitch is a valued member of the Long-range Planning Committee; the committee has recently approved plans for the expansion of the church, an expansion which will include a new family life center; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize Jimmy Hitch and commend him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend James "Jimmy" Hitch on receiving the Tennessee Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service Award" and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copy.